
Report to: Green Economy Panel

Date: 24 July 2018

Subject: **Clean Growth Knowledge Exchange**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To outline the progress being made on the Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy (LIIS) and Policy Framework, particularly the new Leeds City Region-Styria knowledge exchange.

2 Information

Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy (LIIS) and Policy Framework

- 2.1 Work is progressing to replace the Strategic Economic Plan with a broader policy framework and Local, Inclusive Industrial Strategy providing a more flexible and agile approach to policy development. The Policy framework and Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy update (Appendix 1) provides a full update on progress.
- 2.2 Work is underway locally to define distinctiveness and future priorities. A Green Economy Panel working group has been set up to support this process. A series of meetings are planned over the next three months to explore local clean growth opportunities. This group will look at an array of opportunities including the findings of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan.

Local inclusive Industrial Strategy: Leeds City Region-Styria Knowledge Exchange

- 2.3 To further support the development of the LIIS and Policy Framework a knowledge exchange opportunity has also arisen through the University of Leeds.

2.4 The industrial economies of the Leeds City Region and the State of Styria, Austria share some important characteristics that could be the basis for fruitful knowledge exchange and future collaboration. Both regions have identified clean energy technologies and medical technology as important areas for innovation and growth, supported by strong capabilities in local Universities and research institutions. This project intends to bring together representatives from the Leeds City Region, the Styrian regional government, and the city government in Graz, in a workshop to achieve two outcomes:

- to facilitate knowledge exchange on the governance of local innovation and industrial development, in particular to support the creation of a Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy that the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) has been tasked with developing, and
- to identify opportunities for further collaboration between the two regions, particularly on the transition to a low carbon economy and the growth of the medical technology industry.

2.5 The project brief is attached in Appendix 2.

2.6 The exchange is to be held on 18 and 19 July 2018 in Graz, Styria, Austria. Simon Pringle and James Brass will update the Board on the exchange and the initial findings at the meeting.

3 Financial Implications

3.1 The exchange was fully funded through a research grant secured by the University of Leeds. There are therefore no revenue implications for the CA – just staff time in attending exchange and dissemination of lessons learnt.

4 Legal Implications

4.1 There are no implications associated with this paper.

5 Staffing Implications

5.1 There are no implications associated with this paper.

6 External Consultees

6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

7 Recommendations

7.1 That the Panel note progress toward the Leeds City Region-Styria knowledge exchange and welcome the opportunity to discuss outputs from the workshop.

8 Background Documents

8.1 None.

9 Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – LIIS and policy Framework Update
- Appendix 2 – Knowledge Exchange Project Brief